

# Status of South Carolina Marine Fisheries



DNR



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# South Carolina's Marine Fisheries

- Diverse - commercial & recreational sectors
- Significant economic impact
- Commercial (2009/10)
  - \$17.2 m (ex-vv) / 15.3 million lbs
  - 1,473 licensed fishermen
- Recreational (2008/09)
  - \$993 m (impact) / 7,323 jobs
  - 132,324 licenses / 2.6 million trips
  - 208,000 licenses (2009/10)





# Range of Fisheries & Habitats

- Commercially and recreationally targeted finfish, crustaceans and shellfish
- Offshore, nearshore and estuarine waters
- Deep hard bottom reefs to the intertidal



# SC Commercial Fisheries



- Twenty-two types of licenses sold
- Thirty-five types of permits issued
- Landings reported for twenty-four gear types/applications (2009/10)
- Landings reported by wholesale dealers through “trip ticket” system
- Biological & catch data through port agents

# Commercial Shrimping

- Primarily nearshore trawling
- Mostly whites – some browns
- 2.9m lbs (2009/10); \$5.8m (ex-vv)
- Spring & Fall peaks
- 440 licensed trawlers





# Commercial Finfish

- Diverse offshore and inshore fisheries
- Wide range of gear types/methods
- 2.3 million pounds (2009/10); \$5.7m (ex-vv)
- 95% offshore – primarily snapper/grouper
- American shad primary inshore species



# Commercial Crabbing

- Primarily hard shell blue crabs
- Mostly estuarine trapping
- 3.5m lbs (2009/10); \$3.9m (ex-vv)
- 3% stone crabs; 10% peelers (soft shell)
- 386 licensed crabbers



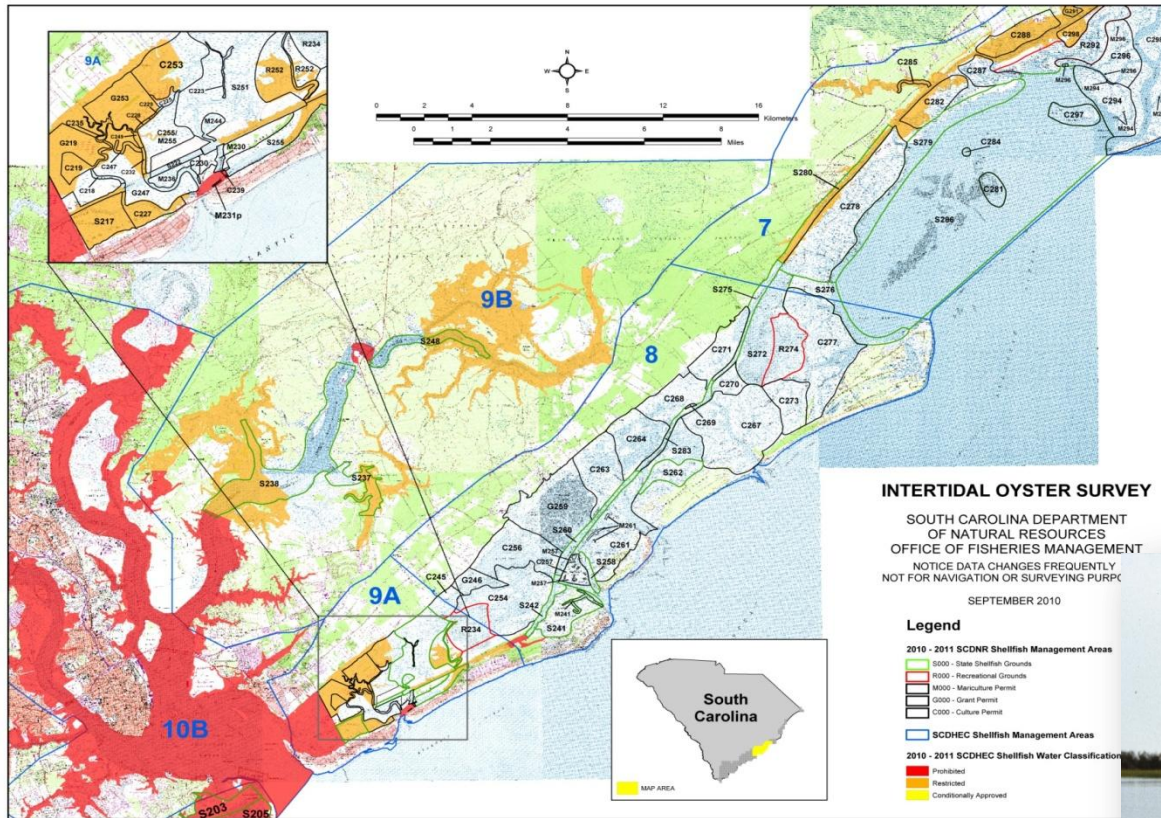
# Commercial Shellfish

- Primarily oysters and clams
- Mostly hand - some mechanical harvest
- 478K lbs meats (2009/10); \$2.5m (ex-vv)
- 70% oysters from state & permit grounds
- 131 CPs; 47 MPs; 223 shellfish licenses
- Growth potential exists in the fishery





# Shellfish Fishery Challenges



# Future uncertain



# SC Recreational Fisheries

- Offshore, nearshore and estuarine fisheries
- Wide range of gear types and fishing methods
- Shore-based, private boat, and for hire sectors
- One primary license type





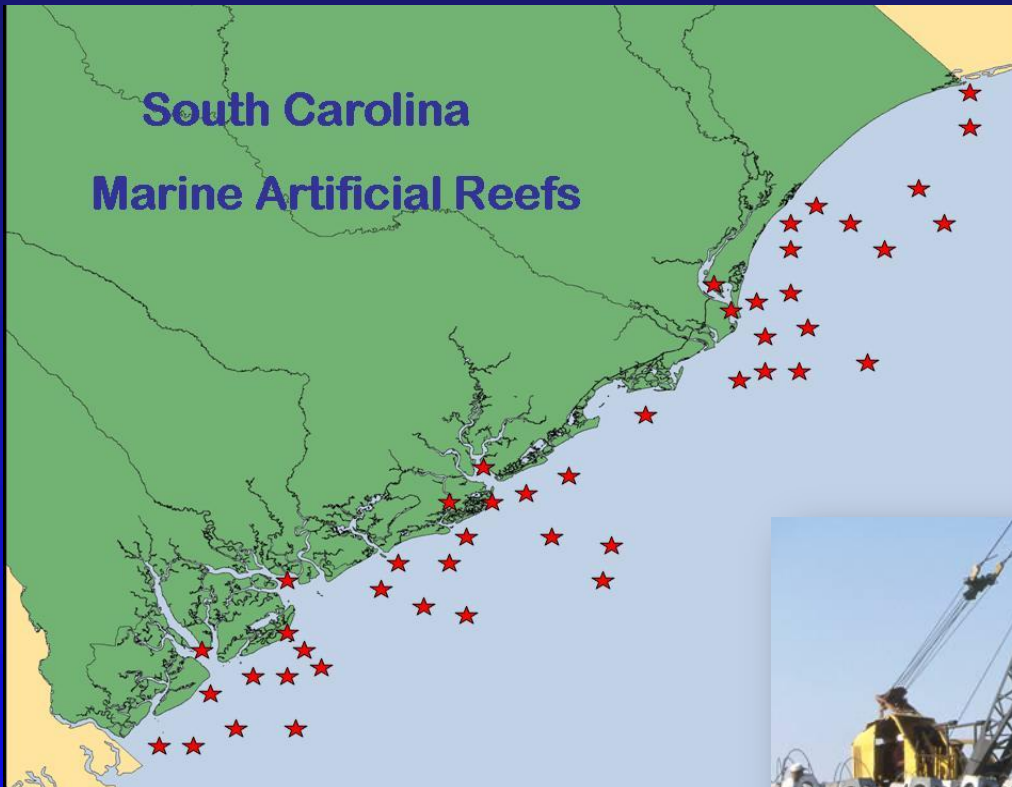
# SC Recreational Fisheries

- 85% fish for finfish inshore
- 56% fish for finfish offshore
- 41 % shrimp
- 36% crab
- 20% harvest shellfish
- 33% fish from shore \*\*
- 36% fish on artificial reefs





# Marine Artificial Reefs



**Marine Spatial Planning**



# Marine Fisheries Challenge



**Shem Creek**

**Linkages not always simple or apparent**



# Coastal Growth & Development





# Coastal Growth & Development



# SC Marine Resources Management Challenge



**Keeping the Goose Alive and Healthy in  
a Changing Environment**



# Questions ?



DNR

